

## CLAIMS

I claim:

1        1. A fishing rod strike sensor, comprising:  
2        a sensor having an electrical characteristic that varies as  
3        the sensor flexes;  
4        means for attaching said sensor to a fishing rod such that  
5        said electrical characteristic varies as the fishing rod flexes;  
6        an alarm signaling device;  
7        an electrical circuit in electrical connection with said  
8        sensor, the circuit defining a first threshold, the circuit  
9        having an output that is activated when said electrical  
10       characteristic exceeds said first threshold, the output being in  
11       electrical connection with said alarm signaling device;  
12       means for adjusting said first threshold; and  
13       an electrical power source in electrical connection with  
14       said electrical circuit.

1       2. The fishing rod strike sensor according to claim 1,  
2       further comprising:  
3       a second threshold defined by said circuit, said output  
4       being activated when said electrical characteristic falls  
5       outside of said first and second thresholds; and  
6       means for adjusting said second threshold.

1        3. The fishing rod strike sensor according to claim 2,  
2 wherein said electrical circuit comprises a window comparator.

1        4. The fishing rod strike sensor according to claim 1,  
2 wherein said sensor is a flexible resistor having a resistance  
3 that varies as the flexible resistor flexes.

1        5. The fishing rod strike sensor according to claim 1,  
2 further comprising a housing, the alarm signaling device,  
3 electrical circuit, threshold adjusting means, and electrical  
4 power source being contained within said housing.

1        6. The fishing rod strike sensor according to claim 5,  
2 wherein said sensor attaching means comprises a bridge having  
3 forward and rearward ends, the rearward end supported by said  
4 housing and the forward end extending from said housing.

1        7. The fishing rod strike sensor according to claim 6,  
2 further comprising at least one clip disposed on the forward end  
3 of said bridge.

1        8. The fishing rod strike sensor according to claim 1,  
2 further comprising a fishing rod having a handle portion and a  
3 rod portion, wherein:

4        the alarm signaling device, electrical circuit, threshold  
5 adjusting means, and electrical power source are contained  
6 within said handle portion; and

7        said sensor attaching means comprises means for attaching  
8 said sensor to said rod portion.

1        9. The fishing rod strike sensor according to claim 1,  
2 wherein said alarm signaling device comprises a visual signaling  
3 device.

1        10. The fishing rod strike sensor according to claim 1,  
2 wherein said alarm signaling device comprises an audio signaling  
3 device.

1        11. A fishing rod strike sensor, comprising:  
2        a sensor having an electrical characteristic that varies as  
3        a mechanical force is applied to the sensor;  
4        means for attaching said sensor to a fishing rod such that  
5        said electrical characteristic varies as the fishing rod flexes;  
6        an alarm signaling device;  
7        an electrical circuit in electrical connection with said  
8        sensor, the circuit defining a first threshold, the circuit  
9        having an output that is activated when said electrical  
10       characteristic exceeds said first threshold, the output being in  
11       electrical connection with said alarm signaling device;  
12       means for adjusting said first threshold; and  
13       an electrical power source in electrical connection with  
14       said electrical circuit.

1        12. The fishing rod strike sensor according to claim 11,  
2        further comprising:  
3        a second threshold defined by said circuit, said output  
4        being activated when said electrical characteristic falls  
5        outside of said first and second thresholds; and  
6        means for adjusting said second threshold.

1        13. The fishing rod strike sensor according to claim 12,  
2        wherein said electrical circuit comprises a window comparator.

1        14. The fishing rod strike sensor according to claim 11,  
2 wherein said sensor is a force sensor having a resistance that  
3 varies as a mechanical force is applied to the sensor.

1        15. The fishing rod strike sensor according to claim 11,  
2 further comprising a housing, the sensor, alarm signaling  
3 device, electrical circuit, threshold adjusting means, and  
4 electrical power source being contained within said housing.